

Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility

PO 1328

San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

[www.a4nr.org](http://www.a4nr.org)

August 19, 2015

Dear Ms. Mulqueen:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your solicitation for input on safety interventions in Commission proceedings. The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility (A4NR) believes that matters of radiological safety are federally pre-empted, but that the Commission's dereliction in addressing traditional state cost concerns at Diablo Canyon -- such as the reliability of future output and the magnitude of likely seismic retrofit requirements -- has profound safety ramifications.

For a considerable time, the Commission has used federal preemption as an excuse to turn a blind eye to ratemaking aspects of what goes on at the state's nuclear power plants. The financial consequences to ratepayers from this policy of neglect were clarified by the steam generator fiasco at San Onofre Units 2 and 3, a direct product of inadequate coordination of state-federal regulation. The Commission has allowed a similar regulatory cataract to develop in its oversight of the AB 1632 seismic studies at Diablo Canyon.

After authorizing the most expensive seismic re-evaluation of a nuclear power plant in US history, the Commission has passively accepted PG&E's evasion of ongoing review by the Independent Peer Review Panel (IPRP) established in D.10-08-003 and D.12-09-008. A4NR has documented the role of unreviewed assumptions and thumb-on-scale analyses in skewing PG&E's seismic assessment to happytalk triumphalism, but the Commission has not yet seen fit to bolster IPRP scrutiny. The Peevey-Cherry emails released earlier this year suggest that the primary purpose of the \$64.25 million studies may have been simply a post-Fukushima PR salve for relicensing the plant.

The Commission's efforts to prioritize safety in all of its undertakings will lack credibility until affirmative steps are taken to safeguard the scientific integrity of these studies.

In peace,

/s/ ROCHELLE BECKER

Executive Director

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In Peace

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